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ABSTRACT

This document is the third of four in a series of guides to the government documents collection in the academic library at St. Mary's University (San Antonio, Texas); the library has been a selective depository for U.S. Government publications since 1964. This guide provides a description of the Census Bureau publications available in the library's documents collection, including documents on the census of population and housing, economic censuses, the census of agriculture, the census of governments, compendia, important serial publications, and international information. The final section discusses aids to the access and use of these library census materials, including specialized guides and indexes. (CGD)

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PUBLICATIONS OF THE CENSUS BUREAU

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PUBLICATIONS OF THE CENSUS BUREAU

This Guide describes the Census Bureau publications to be found in the Documents Collection of the St. Mary's Academic Library. Detailed descriptions of the many data series, their locations and aids to their use, are included.

Another Guide in this series--Government Documents: Guide to Access--covers the Documents Collection in general, with descriptions of the basic access methods. Additional Guides discuss other specialized topics.

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II. Aids to Access and Use

The Academic Library receives many publications of the Census Bureau, most of them in paper format. The classification for these documents is C 3. The best way to access this information is through the American Statistics Index, Monthly Catalog, or a more specialized index.

I. Documents

A. Census of Population and Housing

1. Introduction

The publications which are generated by the decennial population census are classified C 3.223: . Housing information, gathered at the same time, is classified C 3.224: .

The more detailed the statistics one searches for, the less detailed the geographical area for which the statistics are available. For example, general population counts are published for places as small as 1,000 people. But poverty status figures are given only for places as small as 2,500. Detailed cross-tabulations of poverty status and educational level are only given for large (more than 250,000) SMSAs. Thus, two parameters are important when selecting a Census report to study: the kind of statistics one needs, and the geographical area of interest.

Information contained in the Census volumes is collected from questionnaire responses. Some information is obtained from all residents, whereas other, more detailed questions, are only asked of a sample. This division between 100% and sample data provides a convenient way of organizing the reports from the Census of Population and Housing.

Detailed classification numbers are given for various Census series which are available at the Academic Library. All Texas or San Antonio volumes from the latest Census (except those on microfiche) are on Reserve.

2. Descriptions

REPORTS COVERING 100% DATA:

Number of Inhabitants. Population of counties, SMSAs, places of 5,000 or more population, and rural areas by size of place and urban/rural residence. (Classification number for 1960, 1970 volumes is C 3.223/10: ; for 1980 volumes: C 3.223/5 . Data received for all states.)

General Population Characteristics. Population, including figures by sex, age and race of places of 1,000 or more, counties and state as a whole. (Classification number: C 3.223/6: . In 1960 and 1970, data was received for Texas only; in 1980 and subsequently, data is received for all states.)

General Housing Characteristics. Occupancy, plumbing, utilization and financial data for places of 1,000 or more, counties and state as a whole. (Classification number: C 3.224/3: . In 1970, data was received for Texas only; in 1980 and subsequently, data is received for all states.)

Block Statistics. Data for individual blocks in urbanized areas, places of 10,000 or more outside urbanized areas, and other areas that contracted for block statistics. These reports were published only in microfiche for the 1980 Census. (Classification number is C 3.224/5: . In 1960 and 1970, data was received for Texas only; in 1980 and subsequently, data is received for all states.)

REPORTS CONTAINING SAMPLE DATA:

General Social & Economic Characteristics. Occupational, income, education, citizenship, and other categories of information for places of 2,500 or more, counties and state as a whole. (Classification number: C 2.223/7: . In 1960 and 1970 data was received for Texas only; in 1980 and subsequently, data is received for all states.)

Detailed Social & Economic Characteristics. Additional data on ethnicity, labor force status, ancestry, fertility and education are cross-tabulated more extensively than in the General series; information given for state as a whole, large SMSAs and selected other cities. (Classification number: C 3.223/8: . In 1960 and 1970 data was received for Texas only; in 1980 and subsequently, data is received for all states.)

Subject Reports (Population). Detailed information and extensive cross-tabulations on various subjects such as living arrangements, poverty areas, earnings by occupation, journey to work, geographic mobility, etc. Some statistics are available at the national level only, while others are presented down to the county or place level. Some reports are repeated from Census to Census to allow comparability over time. (Classification number: C 3.223/10: . Reports are available for Censuses from 1960 on.)

Census Tracts. Information on race, occupation, income, and education from the Population Census; tables on occupancy, utilization, finance, physical structure of dwellings from the Housing Census. Census tracts are the smallest geographical area for which sample data

is available. They typically contain between 2500 and 8000 residents and are relatively homogeneous with respect to population characteristics. Tract boundaries are occasionally redrawn between censuses, so comparing data over time should be done carefully. Charts of comparability can be found in each tract volume. (Classification number: C 3.223/11: . In 1960, data was received for Texas only; in 1970 and subsequently, data is received for all states. Reports from the 1970 Census are in storage.)

Congressional District Characteristics. Selected sample data on income, fertility, housing, fuel consumption, etc., for Congressional districts of the 98th, 99th, or 100th Congress (depending upon the release data for the individual state report). Within each district, there are summaries for counties and places of 10,000 or more. (Classification number: C 3.223/20: . Reports begin with 1980 Census.)

Detailed Housing Characteristics. Data on structural features, fuels, occupancy and utilization are cross-tabulated by race of householders, age of structure, size of place, etc.; information available for state, SMSAs, places of 2500 or more, and counties. (Classification number: C 3.224/3: . Reports begin with 1980 Census.)

Metropolitan Housing Characteristics. Detailed information by SMSA and state; categories include financial, historical, demographic and physical aspects of housing and are extensively cross-tabulated by age, race and other factors. (Classification number: C 3.224/4: . Reports began with 1980 Census; data is received for all states.)

Components of Inventory Change. Value of properties, new construction and demolition, physical characteristics of properties compared with data from previous Census. (Classification number: C 3.223/6: . Reports are available from 1970 on.)

Residential Finance. Detailed national statistics on mortgage characteristics, rental and homeowner expenses, property and owner characteristics. Cross-tabulations are extensive, covering such subjects as price, mortgage status, outstanding debt, VA or FHA mortgage, etc. (Classification number: C 3.224/7: . Reports are available from 1970 on.)

Subject Reports (Housing). Detailed information and extensive cross-tabulations on various subjects such as mobile homes, mover households, space utilization, structural characteristics, and condominium housing. Some statistics are available at the national level only, while others are presented down to the county or place level. Some reports are repeated from Census to Census to allow comparability over time. (Classification number: C 3.224/10: . Reports are available from 1970 on.)

3. Miscellaneous Series

Employment Profiles of Selected Low-Income Areas. These reports were published for the 1970 Census only. Classification number is C 3.223/17: .)

Evaluation and Research Reports. Available for 1970 and subsequently. Classification number: C 3.223/16: .

Supplementary Reports. Available for 1970 and subsequently. Classification number: C 3.223/12: .

4. Older Census Material

1920, 1930. Information on population, economic conditions and agriculture were combined in the same censuses. Classification numbers for basic Census volumes are:

1920: C 3.28/5:

1930: C 3.37/5:

The Academic Library also has some monographs from the 1920 Census which cover such subjects as the position of women, the condition of Blacks, the farm population, and immigrants. They are classified C 3.30: .

Religious Bodies, 1916, 1926, 1936. These volumes are classified C 3.35: .

1960 Census Monographs. These volumes cover such topics as education, income distribution, blacks, and the rural population. They are classified C 3.30: .

B. Economic Censuses

1. General

These surveys of economic activity are taken every five years. All are on the same schedule, with a census taken in 1977, 1982, & 1987, except for Agriculture, which was taken in 1978 & 1983. As with other Census reports, however, there is a lag of 1-2 years after the date of the Census before the reports begin arriving in the Library. The general organization of the information from the Economic Censuses is the same for each area. There are volumes of subject reports & volumes for geographic reports. Data is usually given for whole states and for all or at least selected SMSAs and SCSAs.

The list below gives the classification numbers for the different censuses. Be cautioned that some reports, especially preliminary

information, may be received in microfiche. In the future, it is quite possible that all reports will be issued in microfiche only.

Comparability over time is possible with the Economic Censuses. But be aware that the Standard Industrial Classification scheme, by which most information in the reports is organized, underwent a drastic revision in 1972. Comparability of recent data with that from Censuses dated before this time, therefore, is essentially impossible. Also note that information that is now published in the Censuses of Retail Trade, Wholesale Trade and Service Industries was published in the Census of Business prior to 1972. These volumes are located at C 3.202/5: , for the years 1963 and 1967.

2. Individual Economic Censuses

Construction Industries. C 3.245: ; 1967-- . Includes information on general and special trade contractors, land subdividers and developers. Additions, repair and maintenance are included as well as work on new structures. Firms covered have 15 or more employees, with sample data covering smaller firms. The general SIC codes used to define construction activity are: SIC 15, 16, 17, and 6552. Subjects covered include: number of employees, payrolls, payments for various materials and services, receipts, fixed assets and depreciation.

Manufactures. C 3.24: ; 1963-- , with incomplete volumes for 1914, 1919, 1947, 1958, and Biennial Census reports for odd-numbered years 1921-27, 1931-37 (these last reports are classified C 3.24/1:). Provides statistics on firms involved in the mechanical or chemical transformation of materials or substances into new products. SIC codes used to define manufacturing activity are: SIC 20-39. Subjects covered include: employment, payroll, hours worked, inventories, capital expenditures, and costs of various materials and services.

Mineral Industries. C 3.216: ; 1963-- . Provides statistics on firms primarily involved in the extraction of minerals, whether solid, liquid or gaseous. SIC codes used to define this activity are: SIC 10-14. Subjects covered include: employment, payroll, costs, capital expenditures, consumption of energy, value of assets, development and exploration, inventories, and depreciation and depletion.

Minority-Owned Business Enterprises. C 3.258: ; 1977-- . Separate reports for Blacks, Spanish Origin, Asian-Americans and others, as well as a summary volume. Data includes financial and employment information presented geographically (for nation, states, SMSAs, counties and places with more than 250 minority firms) and by industry.

Outlying Areas. C 3.253/2: ; 1972-- . Contains statistics gathered in the wholesale, retail and service Censuses for these areas: Guam, Marianas Islands, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands.

Retail Trade. C 3.255: ; 1972-- . Provides information on firms primarily involved in selling merchandise to the general public. Covers all retail establishments, including those without paid employees. SIC codes describing the kinds-of-businesses included are: SIC 52-59. Subjects covered: number of establishments, sales, payroll, employment, sole proprietorships and partnerships, legal form and size of firm. Geography is more detailed in this Census, with material available in 1982 for incorporated places of 2500 or more in addition to larger areas. With the 1982 Census, a separate series was added, Major Retail Centers, which recompiles data into two types of areas: central business districts and major retail centers. All SMSAs in each state are covered.

Service Industries. C 3.257: ; 1972-- . All establishments are included in surveys prior to 1982. Beginning with that Census, only firms with payroll are covered. SIC codes used to define service industries are: SIC 70, 72-73, 75-76, 78-81, 823, 824, 829, 83-84, 861, 862, 864, 869, and 89. Geography is detailed, with figures available for counties and incorporated places of 2500 or more in addition to larger areas. Subject areas covered include: number of establishments, receipts and revenues, payroll, expenses, employment, legal form and size of firm.

Transportation. C 3.233: ; 1967-- . 1982 Census consisted of 3 surveys: Truck Inventory and Use, Selected Statistics for Transportation Industries and Commodity Transportation. Earlier Censuses may have included more or differently titled series. Some changes in the Truck Inventory and Use survey affect certain specific data items, as far as comparability with earlier information is concerned. Consult the introduction to volumes of this survey for details.

Wholesale Trade. C 3.256: ; 1972-- . Provides information on firms with paid employees primarily engaged in selling merchandise to retailers, repair shops, industrial or commercial users, or other wholesalers. Reports contain information for the following kind-of-business groups, by SIC code: SIC 501-509, 511-19. Subjects covered include: Number of establishments, sales, payroll, employment, operating expenses, inventories, size of firm, legal form and type of operation.

Women-Owned Businesses. C 3.250: ; 1972-- . Gives information on these firms in the areas of receipts, employment, and payroll. Geographical areas covered are nation, states, SMSAs, counties and places with more than 250 qualifying firms.

C. Other Censuses

1. Census of Agriculture. C 3.31: ; 1963-- . This Census is taken every five years and, beginning with the 1982 Census, is on the same schedule as the Economic Censuses.

In the states series, (C 3.31/4:) Texas and U.S. summary data are the only volumes received. Other series received are: Special Reports (C 3.31/5:), Preliminary Reports (C 3.31/7: , discarded when Texas volume received), General Reports (C 3.31/9: , series ended with 1974 volumes), and Subject Reports (C 3.31/12: , began with 1978 Census).

2. Census of Governments. C 3.145/4: ; 1967-- . This Census is taken on the same schedule as the Economic Censuses and reports on the economic aspects of states, local governments, school districts, etc. Series included: Governmental Organization, Taxable Property Values and Assessment-Sales Price Ratios, Government Employment, Governmental Finances, Local Government in Metropolitan Areas, and Topical Studies.

D. Compendia

1. Congressional District Data Book. C 3.134/2:C 76; 1961, 1963, 1973 (separates for 1971 are shelved at C 3.134/4:). Population, social, economic and voting statistics for Congressional Districts. Maps of the states, showing district boundaries (as they were for the year of publication) are provided.

2. County and City Data Book. C 3.134/2:C 83; 1949, 1952, 1956, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1983. Data by counties and towns of 2500 or more population (with some information by regions and states) from most recent Censuses as well as from other government agencies and private sources.

3. Historical Abstracts. C 3.134/2:H 62; 1789-1945, 1946-52, "Colonial Times" to 1957 (with supplement to 1962) and to 1970. Time series, mostly annual, providing a statistical history of U.S. social, economic, political and geographic development. Data is given by nation, states and selected cities.

4. State and Metropolitan Area Data Book. C 3.134/5: ; 1979, 1982, 1986. Data by regions, states, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), MSA counties and central cities from Censuses and other sources.

5. Statistical Abstract. C 3.134: ; 1915, 1920-- . Standard annual summary of U.S. social, political and economic statistics, with recent time series which vary from volume to volume. There is some international data and a guide to sources of material. The most

recent edition is kept at the Reference Desk and may not be checked out. Older editions circulate.

E. Important Serial Publications

1. Annual Housing Survey. C 3.215: ; 1974-- . Sub-series for most recent years include: Characteristics for Selected Metropolitan Areas, Indicators of Housing and Neighborhood Quality, Financial Characteristics, Recent Movers, Urban/Rural Characteristics and Energy-Related Characteristics.
2. Annual Survey of Manufactures. C 3.24/9: ; 1962-- . Some years are not available, some have hardbound cumulations of separate subject reports, some do not. In addition, quirks of numbering have caused some series of older Censuses of Manufactures to be interfiled with these annual surveys. Data is given for nation, states, cities, and selected industrial counties.
3. County Business Patterns. C 3.204: ; 1964-- . Gives data by SIC code on number of establishments, employment and payroll.
4. Current Industrial Reports. C 3.158: ; 1973-- . Series of more than 100 reports by subject. Some subject reports appear monthly, others quarterly or annually. Data is given for nation, states and some cities.
5. Current Population Reports. C 3.186: ; 1964-- . Recently, the most important annual series of reports have been given their own classification numbers at the end of the C 3.186: reports. These are: Money Income, Voting and Registration, Marital Status, Estimates of Population, Population Profile, Households and Families, Fertility, School Enrollment, Noncash Benefits, Spanish Origin and Poverty Level. Reports on these and other subjects, including special demographic studies, are still classified C 3.186: .
6. Foreign Trade Reports. C 3.164: ; 1964-- . The most recent several years' reports are available on microfiche only; earliest years are in Storage. Series contains summary and detailed sub-series on exports and imports by commodity and country. Reports are monthly or annual.

F. International Information

1. Country Demographic Profiles. C 3.205/3:DP- . Population, social and economic characteristics for countries. Information is detailed, but many of the subjects may be covered elsewhere, in more current sources.

2. International Population Series. C 3.186:P-95/ . Sub-series of the Current Population Reports, this series gives demographic and economic data for selected Communist countries.
3. Women of the World. C 3.2:W 84. Series of 4 regional reports and a summary chartbook giving demographic, social, economic and fertility statistics on women in developing countries.
4. World Population. C 3.205/3:WP- ; 1975, 1977, 1979, 1983. Time series of primarily demographic data.

III. Aids to Access and Use

A. American Statistics Index (ASI). Index Area. This is the best index to use when searching for Census material. Its clarity and completeness make it preferable even to the Census Bureau's own aids, in most cases. See a complete description of ASI in "Guide to Access."

B. Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications. Index Area. See description in "Guide to Access."

C. Bureau of the Census Catalog. C 3.163/3: ;1790-- . First volume covers the years 1790 to 1972. Subsequently, the catalog is published annually. Monthly information on new Census Bureau publications can be found in the Monthly Product Announcement (C 3.163/7:). Arrangement of the Catalog is by broad subject, and there is a detailed index. Descriptive abstracts are given for most titles.

As comprehensive and potentially useful as this catalog is, for St. Mary's Library users it can be frustrating because Superintendent of Documents classification numbers are not given for all of the titles it lists. If a document you need appears in this catalog without a classification number, that does not mean that we do not have it in the Library. Consult a librarian for assistance, or look for the title in the Monthly Catalog or ASI.

D. Census Users' Guide (1980). C 3.223/22:80-R 1-A. Gives background on Census objectives, questionnaire design, processing of data, etc. A chapter on geography is important for understanding crucial concepts governing Census geographical units and how they are established and defined. The "Data Products" chapter includes a quick reference chart which lists the report series (unfortunately without Superintendent of Documents classification numbers) and the type of data and geographical area covered by each one. Census procedures on corrections, suppression for confidentiality and sampling variability are discussed in the chapter on "Data Limitations." This chapter also contains helpful hints in avoiding errors of data interpretation. The guide's glossary is the best place to look for complete, authoritative definitions of terms, along with notes on historical comparability.

E. Guide to Foreign Trade Statistics. C 3.6/2:F 76/983 (earlier editions are also available). Gives descriptions and samples of tables from the various Foreign Trade Report series. Additional material includes lists of classification schedules, customs district codes and countries in each world area.

F. Guide to the 1982 Economic Censuses and Related Statistics.
C 3.6/2:Ec 7/2.

G. Important aids within Census volumes. Within each volume of Census data are several important aids to use. This is especially true of Census of Population and Housing data. Most important for finding data are the Contents and Table Finding Aids. These guides give titles of the tables included in the volume and the kinds of statistics present in each, along with the geographical areas represented.

The introductory material in each volume can provide valuable information on comparability and validity of statistics, how they were compiled and how they should be interpreted. Appendices at the end of the volume give detailed information on data accuracy, classification systems used and geography, as well as providing a copy of the questionnaire used to obtain the data.